

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

OCT 10 2006

REMARKS:

In the outstanding, final Office Action, the Examiner objected to claims 16-18. In particular, the Examiner asserted that the phrase "non-woven, spunbond material" in claim 16 contained redundancies, and that the same phrase should be recited in claim 17 (Office Action at 6-7). Without disputing or admitting that the terms are in fact redundant, Applicants have amended claims 16 and 17 to recite a "spunbond" material. Accordingly, the Examiner's objections concerning claims 16 and 17 should be withdrawn. Applicants have also amended claim 23, which depends from claim 17, to recite a "spunbond" material in order to maintain proper antecedent basis for that term.

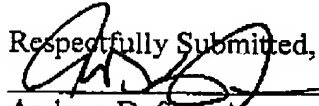
In addition, Applicants gratefully acknowledge the Examiner's careful review, and notice that some language from claim 18 was inadvertently omitted, apparently due to a pagination error (Office Action at 7). Applicants have now amended claim 18 to recite the language that was present in the original claim, as suggested by the Examiner (Id.).

Applicants respectfully submit that the Amendments presented herein are made to comply with a requirement of form expressly set forth in the prior Office Action (37 CFR 1.116(b)(1)), and further present the claims in better condition for appeal (37 CFR 1.116(b)(2)). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter the Amendments. If for any reason these Amendments are not deemed appropriate for entry in this application, and an interview would be helpful to resolve any remaining issues, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney at (312) 321-4713.

Dated: October 10, 2006

By:

Respectfully Submitted,


Andrew D. Stover

Reg. No. 38,629

Attorney for Applicants

BRINKS HOFER GILSON & LIONE LTD.
Post Office Box 10395
Chicago, Illinois 60610
(312) 321-4200